Vote Record

Senate - Committee on Education

Date: 10-9-01 Moved by: 2006		Seconded b	ov:	Baron	gart	
AB: SB: SS: AJR: SJR: AR: SR: SR:	343	Clearinghouse Rule: Appointment: Other:				
A/S Amdt: A/S Amdt: A/S Sub Amdt: A/S Amdt: A/S Amdt:	to A/S Amdt: to A/S Sub Amd to A/S Amdt:			to A/S Sub Ar	ndt:	
Be recommended for: Passage Introduction Adoption Rejection		Tabling Concu	rrence ncurrence	ement		
Committee Member Sen. Richard Grobschmidt, C Sen. Robert Jauch Sen. Kevin Shibilski Sen. Jim Baumgart Sen. Judith Robson Sen. Jon Erpenbach Sen. Carol Roessler	Chair			Absent	Not Voting	
Sen. Alberta Darling -by Sen. Mary Lazich Sen. Sheila Harsdorf Sen. Ted Kanavas	polling —					
	Totals: _	and the second s				

Motion Carried Motion Failed

MILWAUKEE PUBLIC SCHOOLS



Testimony of Audra Millen Legislative Policy Specialist, Milwaukee Public Schools

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE Testimony in support of SB243

October 9, 2001 Madison, WI

Thank you Chairman Grobschmidt and Committee members.

I am honored to address this committee and to testify in support of SB243. Preparing our children for success in the 21st century marketplace is imperative to our State's future. Accomplishing this goal requires that all children have access to technology and that teachers are empowered with the necessary skills to train our students in the use of that technology. In addition, teachers who are comfortable with digital and distance technology can use those skills to enhance all aspects of their teaching and to share best practices with their colleagues.

The Milwaukee Public Schools has already demonstrated tremendous success in bridging the digital divide. We have a world-class wide area network connecting our schools and are on schedule for all schools to have access by the end of the year. We have made technology professional development a priority as part of that implementation. While part of the burden of implementing a strong technology initiative involves one-time installation costs,

we believe the most critical components are the ongoing maintenance and upgrade and most importantly the continuous training of our teachers. Unfortunately, these critical and ongoing components are often overlooked when discussing the costs of technology initiatives.

Therefore, we strongly support this bill's focus on giving districts the flexibility to provide the necessary teacher training in technology without having to decrease other important education initiatives. Passage of this critical legislation would reflect a commitment by our State to bridging the digital divide and preparing Wisconsin's children to thrive in a modern economy.